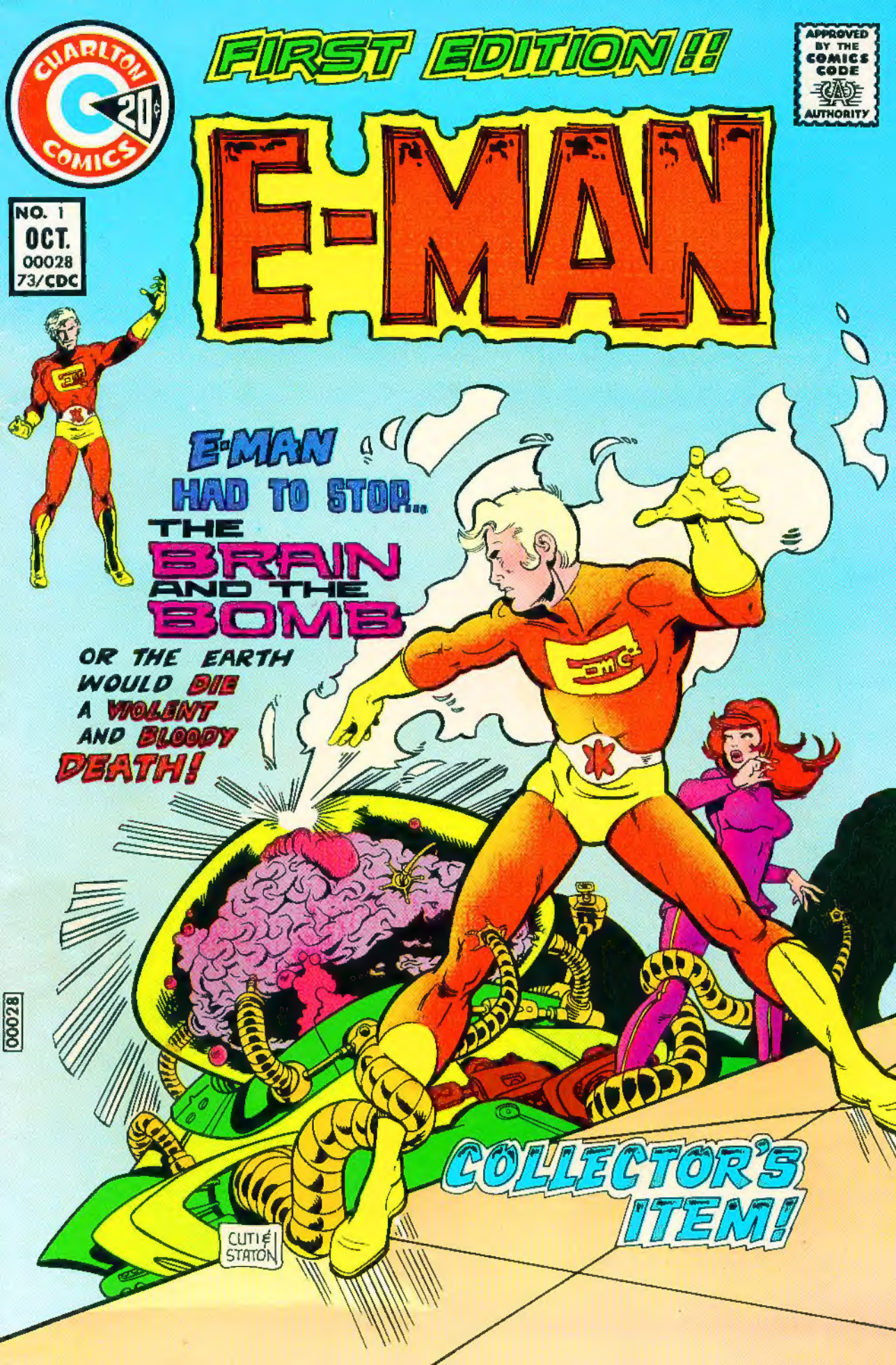
CHARLTON COMICS 20¢
FIRST EDITION !!
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
E-MAN
NO. 1
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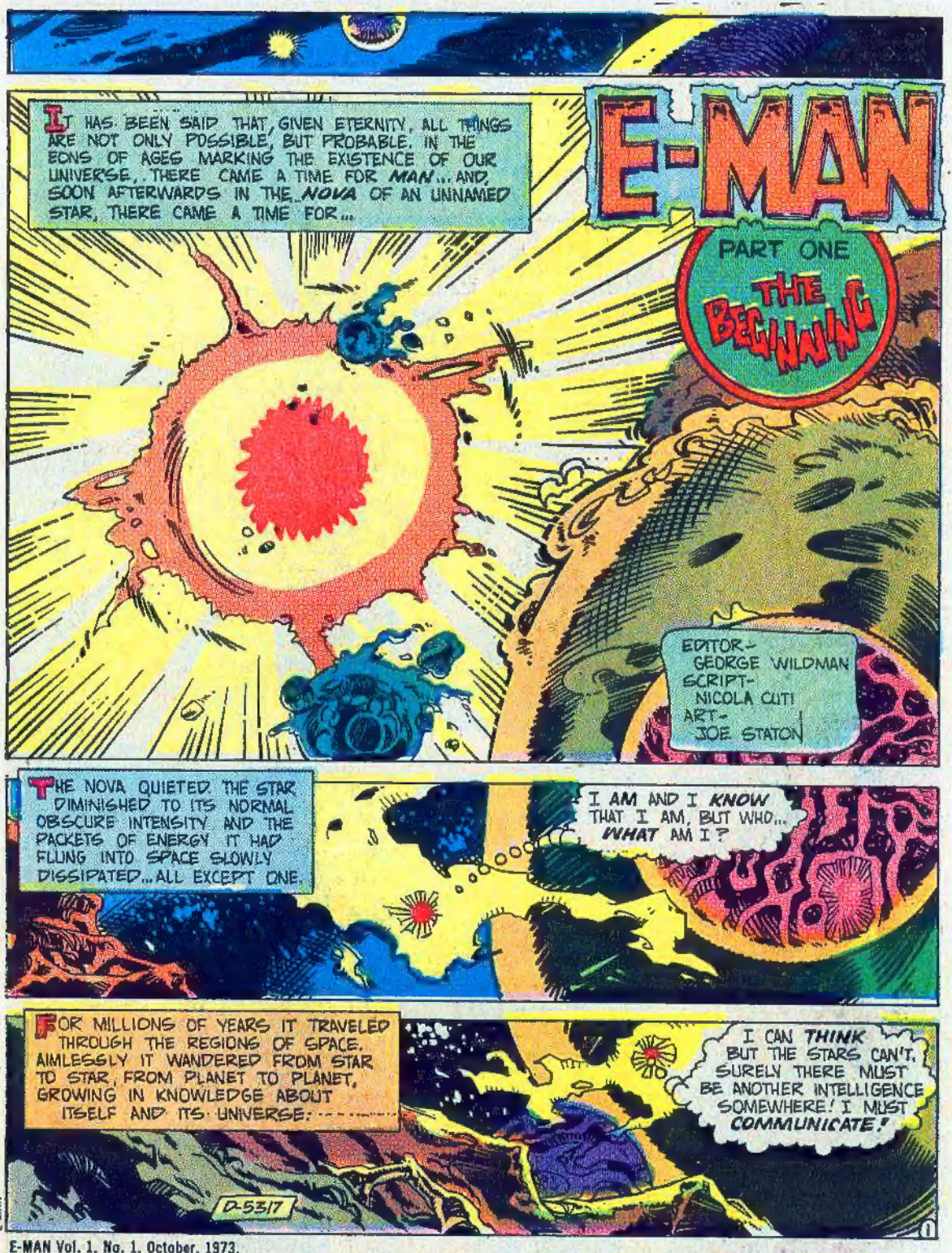
73/CDC
E-MAN HAD TO STOP...
THE BRAIN AND THE BOMB
OR THE EARTH WOULD DIE A VIOLENT AND BLOODY DEATH!
COLLECTOR'S ITEM!
CUTI & STATON
00028


IT HAS BEEN SAID THAT, GIVEN ETERNITY, ALL THINGS ARE NOT ONLY POSSIBLE, BUT PROBABLE. IN THE EONS OF AGES MARKING THE EXISTENCE OF OUR UNIVERSE, THERE CAME A TIME FOR MAN... AND, SOON AFTERWARDS IN THE NOVA OF AN UNNAMED STAR, THERE CAME A TIME FOR...
E-MAN
PART ONE
THE BEGINNING
EDITOR- GEORGE WILDMAN
SCRIPT- NICOLA CUTI
ART- JOE STATON
THE NOVA QUIETED. THE STAR DIMINISHED TO ITS NORMAL OBSCURE INTENSITY AND THE PACKETS OF ENERGY IT HAD FLUNG INTO SPACE SLOWLY DISSIPATED...ALL EXCEPT ONE.
I AM AND I KNOW THAT I AM, BUT WHO... WHAT AM I?
FOR MILLIONS OF YEARS IT TRAVELED THROUGH THE REGIONS OF SPACE. AIMLESSLY IT WANDERED FROM STAR TO STAR, FROM PLANET TO PLANET, GROWING IN KNOWLEDGE ABOUT ITSELF AND ITS UNIVERSE.
I CAN THINK BUT THE STARS CAN'T, SURELY THERE MUST BE ANOTHER INTELLIGENCE SOMEWHERE! I MUST COMMUNICATE!
D-5317
E-MAN
1

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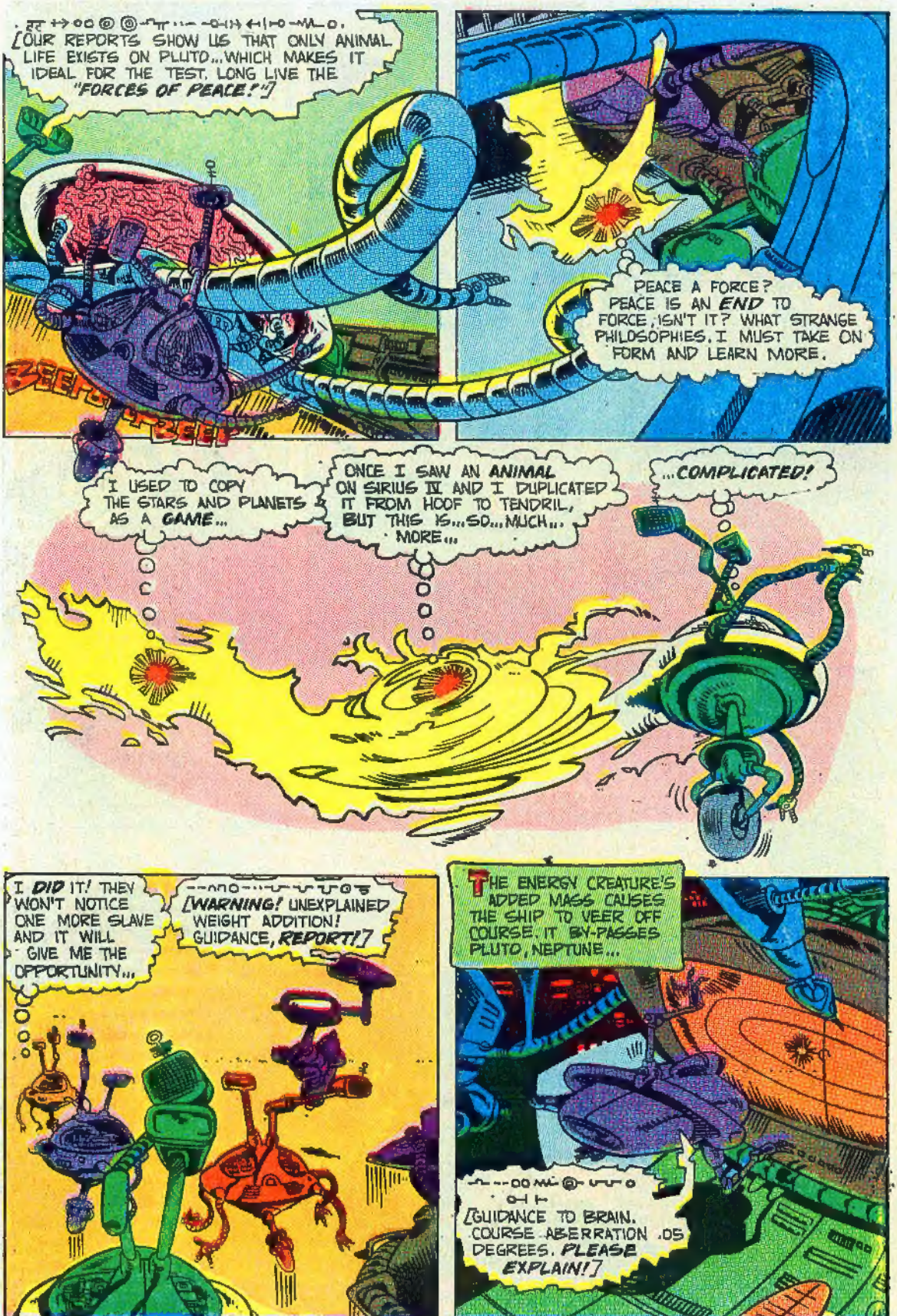
ITS SEARCH FOR ANOTHER INTELLIGENCE WAS DESPERATE BUT SEEMINGLY IN VAIN AND ITS BODY OF ENERGY WAS BEING SPENT IN ITS WANDERINGS. THEN, JUST WHEN IT WAS RESIGNED TO DYING IN LONELINESS, IT SAW THE TINY MOVING LIGHT.
IT'S COMING CLOSER. I WONDER IF IT'S INTELLIGENT. HOW WILL I COMMUNICATE WITH IT? WILL IT LIKE ME?
IT WAS A STAR-SHIP FROM ALPHA CENTAURI ENROUTE TO THE TINY STAR CALLED SOL. ITS MISSION WAS A DEADLY ONE!
I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE IT BEFORE. WHAT COLOR! WHAT FORM! IT'S BEAUTIFUL! IT'S HOLLOW?!
I CAN SENSE SOMETHING INSIDE. I MUST GET IN.
WHAT IS THAT THING? IT'S NOT A COMET.
EEYEOW! THAT'S HOT BUT IT SEEMS LIKE THE ONLY ENTRANCE.
THIS ISN'T NATURAL. IT'S ARTIFICIAL. SOMEONE INTELLIGENT MADE IT!
2

AH, AT LAST, SOMEONE IS COMING.
HELLO, THERE...
BEEPBEEPBEEP
I'M ENERGY AND I... HEY!
BEEPBEEPBEEP
THAT'S NOT INTELLIGENT. IT MUST BE A PARASITE OR SLAVE. PERHAPS IT'S ON ITS WAY TO ITS MASTER.
BEEPBEEPB
SUDDENLY A VOICE BOOMS THROUGHOUT THE SHIP. ALTHOUGH THE ENERGY BEING CANNOT UNDERSTAND THE WORDS, IT TELEPATHICALLY KNOWS THE MEANING.
[ATTENTION, ALL ROBOTS! THIS IS THE BRAIN! WE ARE NEARING OUR DESTINATION.]
THE BRAIN! WOW!
[WE ARE ENROUTE TO PLUTO, THE UNINHABITED NINTH PLANET FROM THE STAR, SOL. IT IS TO BE THE TARGET OF OUR LATEST ULTRA WEAPON!]
3


[OUR REPORTS SHOW US THAT ONLY ANIMAL LIFE EXISTS ON PLUTO...WHICH MAKES IT IDEAL FOR THE TEST. LONG LIVE THE "FORCES OF PEACE!"]
BEEP BEEP
PEACE A FORCE? PEACE IS AN END TO FORCE, ISN'T IT? WHAT STRANGE PHILOSOPHIES. I MUST TAKE ON FORM AND LEARN MORE.
I USED TO COPY THE STARS AND PLANETS AS A GAME...
ONCE I SAW AN ANIMAL ON SIRIUS IV AND I DUPLICATED IT FROM HOOF TO TENDRIL, BUT THIS IS...SO...MUCH... MORE...
...COMPLICATED!
I DID IT! THEY WON'T NOTICE ONE MORE SLAVE AND IT WILL GIVE ME THE OPPORTUNITY...
[WARNING! UNEXPLAINED WEIGHT ADDITION! GUIDANCE, REPORT!]
THE ENERGY CREATURE'S ADDED MASS CAUSES THE SHIP TO VEER OFF COURSE. IT BY-PASSES PLUTO, NEPTUNE...
[GUIDANCE TO BRAIN. COURSE ABERRATION .05 DEGREES. PLEASE EXPLAIN!]

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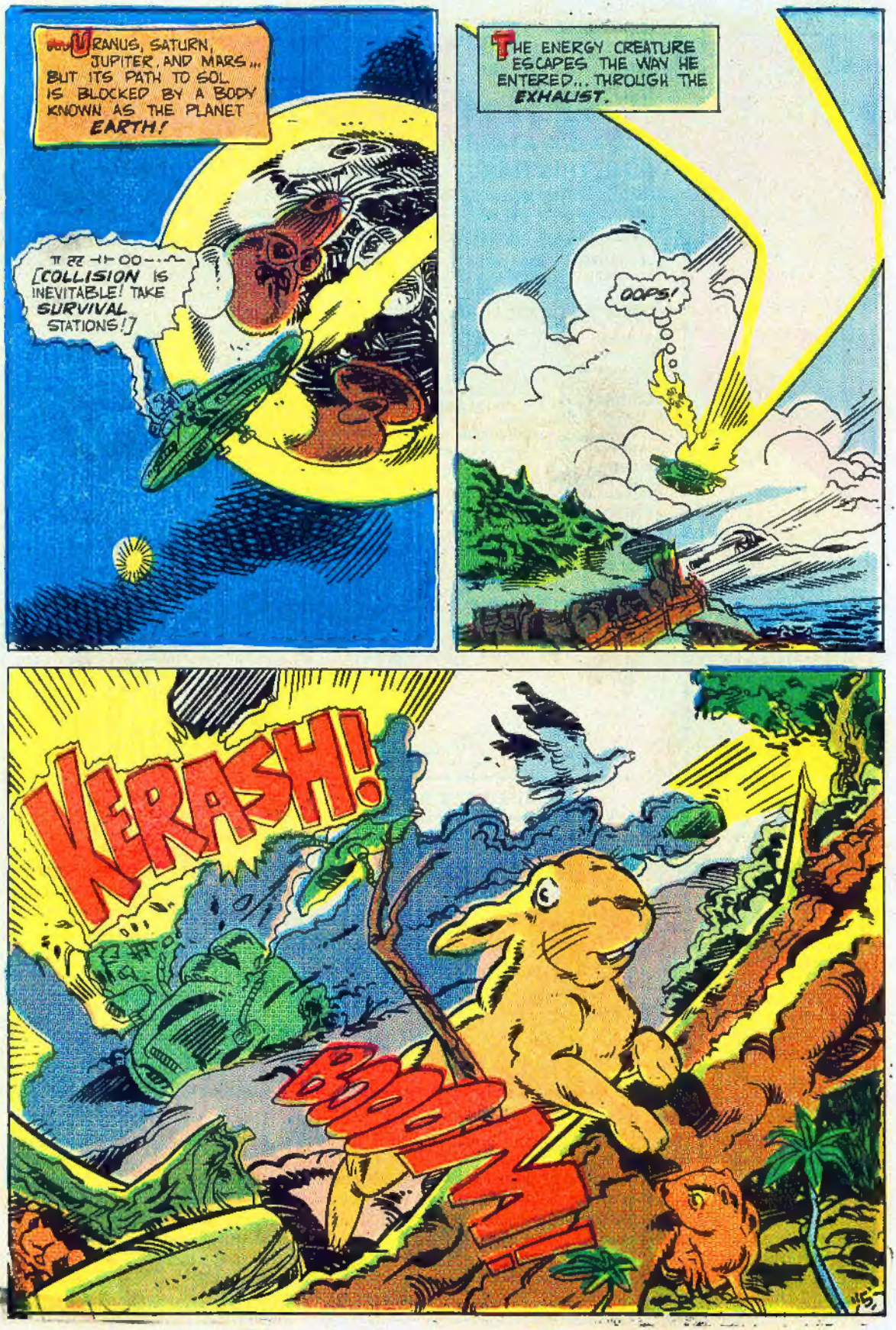
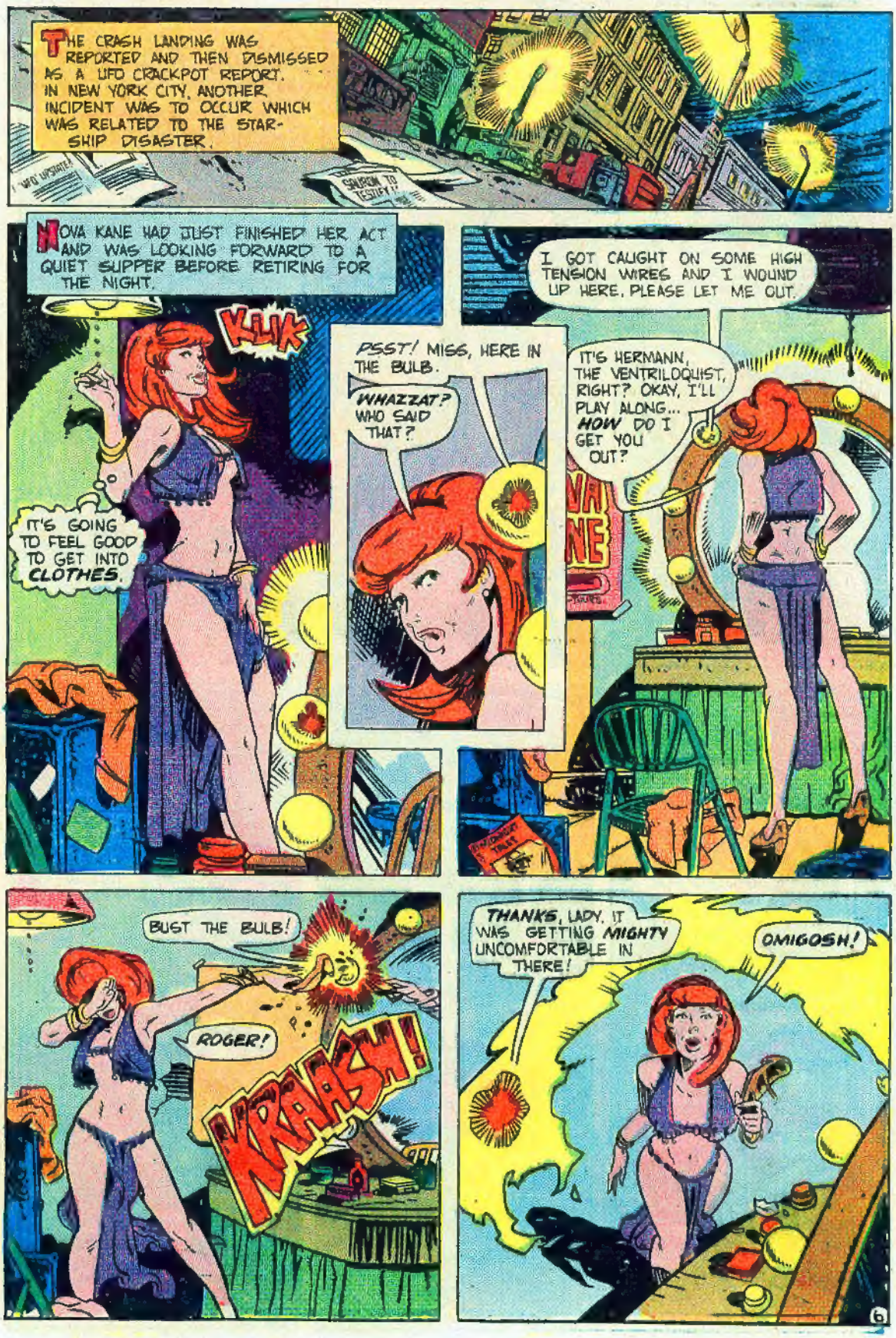
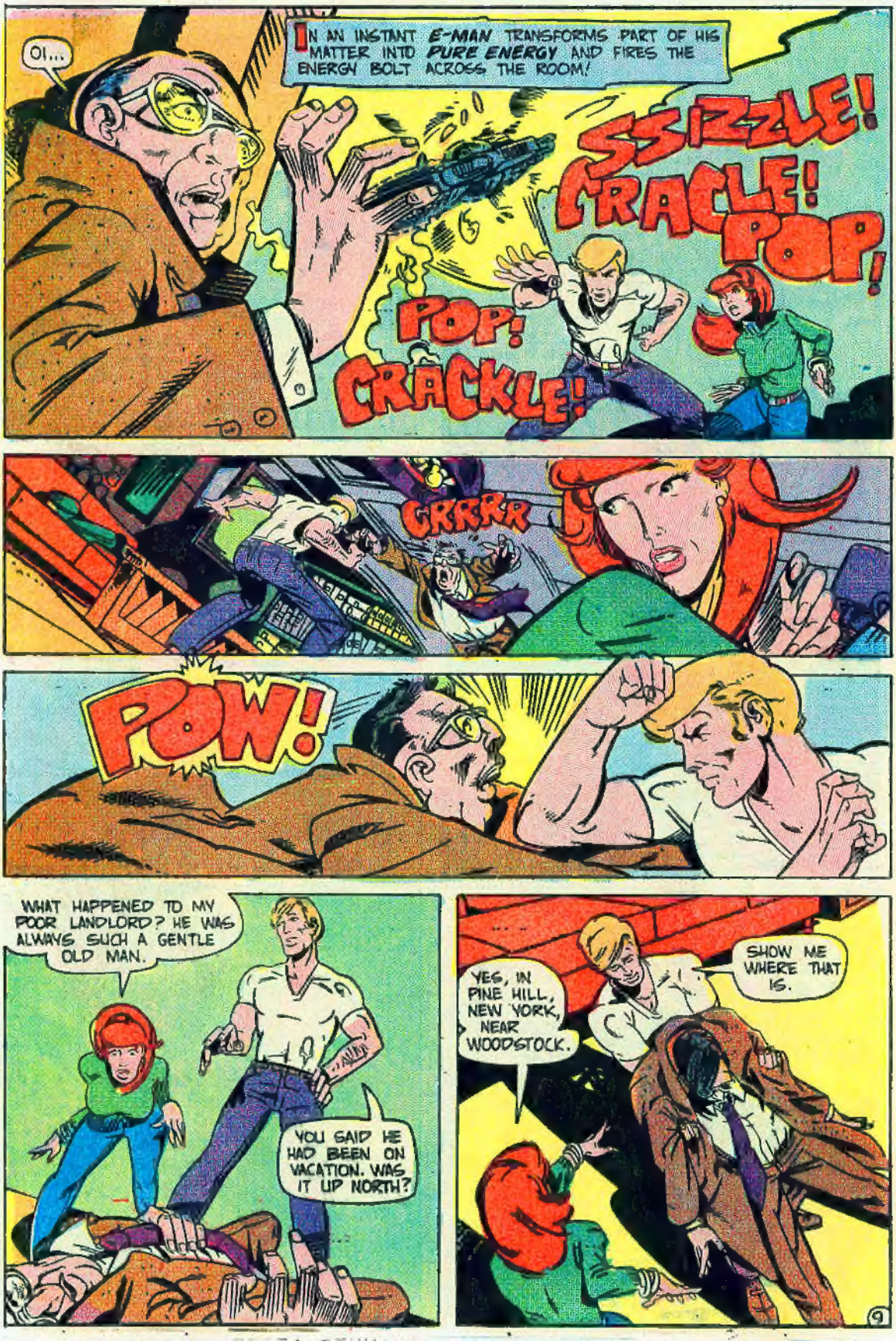

URANUS, SATURN, JUPITER, AND MARS... BUT ITS PATH TO SOL IS BLOCKED BY A BODY KNOWN AS THE PLANET EARTH!
[COLLISION IS INEVITABLE! TAKE SURVIVAL STATIONS!]
THE ENERGY CREATURE ESCAPES THE WAY HE ENTERED... THROUGH THE EXHAUST.
OOPS!
KERASH!
BOOM!


THE CRASH LANDING WAS REPORTED AND THEN DISMISSED AS A UFO CRACKPOT REPORT. IN NEW YORK CITY, ANOTHER INCIDENT WAS TO OCCUR WHICH WAS RELATED TO THE STAR-SHIP DISASTER.
UFO UPDATE!
SAUROM TO TESTIFY
NOVA KANE HAD JUST FINISHED HER ACT AND WAS LOOKING FORWARD TO A QUIET SUPPER BEFORE RETIRING FOR THE NIGHT.
KLIK
IT'S GOING TO FEEL GOOD TO GET INTO CLOTHES.
PSST! MISS, HERE IN THE BULB.
WHAZZAT? WHO SAID THAT?
I GOT CAUGHT ON SOME HIGH TENSION WIRES AND I WOUND UP HERE. PLEASE LET ME OUT.
IT'S HERMANN, THE VENTRILOQUIST, RIGHT? OKAY, I'LL PLAY ALONG... HOW DO I GET YOU OUT?
BUST THE BULB!
ROGER!
KRAASH!
THANKS, LADY. IT WAS GETTING MIGHTY UNCOMFORTABLE IN THERE!
OMIGOSH!
6

UH...WHAT ARE YOU?
ENERGY, JUST ENERGY. DON'T GET SCARED. I'LL TAKE HUMAN FORM, OKAY.
IS THIS BETTER?
UH...YEAH.
I NEED A PLACE TO STAY FOR THE NIGHT. DO YOU KNOW ANYWHERE I COULD GO?
WELL, MY JEEP IS PARKED JUST AROUND THE CORNER.
THIS IS PERFECT!
ACTUALLY, IT'S KIND OF UNUSUAL, BUT I'M STUDYING GEOLOGY AT THE UNIVERSITY AND A JEEP IS JUST THE THING FOR MOUNTAIN ROADS!
I'M ONLY AN EXOTIC DANCER PART TIME SO I CAN WORK MY WAY THROUGH COLLEGE. GET IN!
ROGER!
HEY! I MEANT THE CAR...NOT THE BATTERY.
WAKE ME IN THE MORNING, WILL YA? GOOD-NIGHT.
7

PART TWO
the BRAIN AND THE BOMB
IN THE MORNING THE ENERGY MAN CALLED ON NOVA AND SHE AUTOMATICALLY FIXED BREAKFAST FOR TWO...NOT THINKING TO QUESTION IF THE ENERGY MAN ATE OR NOT.
"E=mc²" WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?
THAT'S EINSTEIN'S FORMULA FOR CHANGING ENERGY INTO MATTER AND VICE VERSA. ENERGY EQUALS MASS TIMES THE SPEED OF LIGHT - THAT'S THE LITTLE c - SQUARED - THAT'S THE LITTLE 2.
I GUESS THAT'S ME - E-MAN. THIS IS GOOD. WHAT IS IT?
BACON AND EGGS. SAY, YOU CAN ACTUALLY EAT! I THOUGHT YOU WERE JUST ENERGY.
I'M MATTER NOW - JUST LIKE THE FORMULA SAYS: E=mc²
EXCUSE ME. THAT'S THE FRONT DOOR.
BROOM! NG!
MR. HALON! YOU'RE BACK FROM YOUR VACATION, I SEE. ARE YOU HERE FOR THE RENT?
NO! THAT'S ALL YOU CARE ABOUT! MONEY!
KANE 36¢
NOVA! HIT THE FLOOR!
BLAM! BLAM!
YOU...
8


OI...
IN AN INSTANT E-MAN TRANSFORMS PART OF HIS MATTER INTO PURE ENERGY AND FIRES THE ENERGY BOLT ACROSS THE ROOM!
SSIZZLE!
CRACLE!
POP!
POP!
CRACKLE!
GRRRR
POW!
WHAT HAPPENED TO MY POOR LANDLORD? HE WAS ALWAYS SUCH A GENTLE OLD MAN.
YOU SAID HE HAD BEEN ON VACATION. WAS IT UP NORTH?
YES, IN PINE HILL, NEW YORK, NEAR WOODSTOCK.
SHOW ME WHERE THAT IS.
9

HERE'S WHERE WE ARE AND THIS IS PINE HILL.
THAT COULD BE WHERE THE SHIP CRASHED.
SHIP?
A SPACE SHIP CARRYING A DANGEROUS WEAPON ACCIDENTALLY CRASHED IN THIS GENERAL AREA. IT'S A BOMB OF SOME SORT.. PERHAPS A GAS BOMB
THAT'S WHAT DROVE POOR MR HALON MAD
IS THERE ANY WAY TO GET ME TO PINE HILL QUICKLY?
IF YOU CHANGED BACK TO ENERGY, I COULD DIAL YOU THERE BY TELEPHONE.
AN EXCELLENT IDEA GO AHEAD AND DIAL WHILE I CHANGE.
YOU MUST HAVE BEGINNER'S LUCK... THE PHONE COMPANY MADE THE CONNECTION ON THE FIRST TRY!
AND YOU MAY NEED SOME HELP WHEN YOU GET THERE!
10

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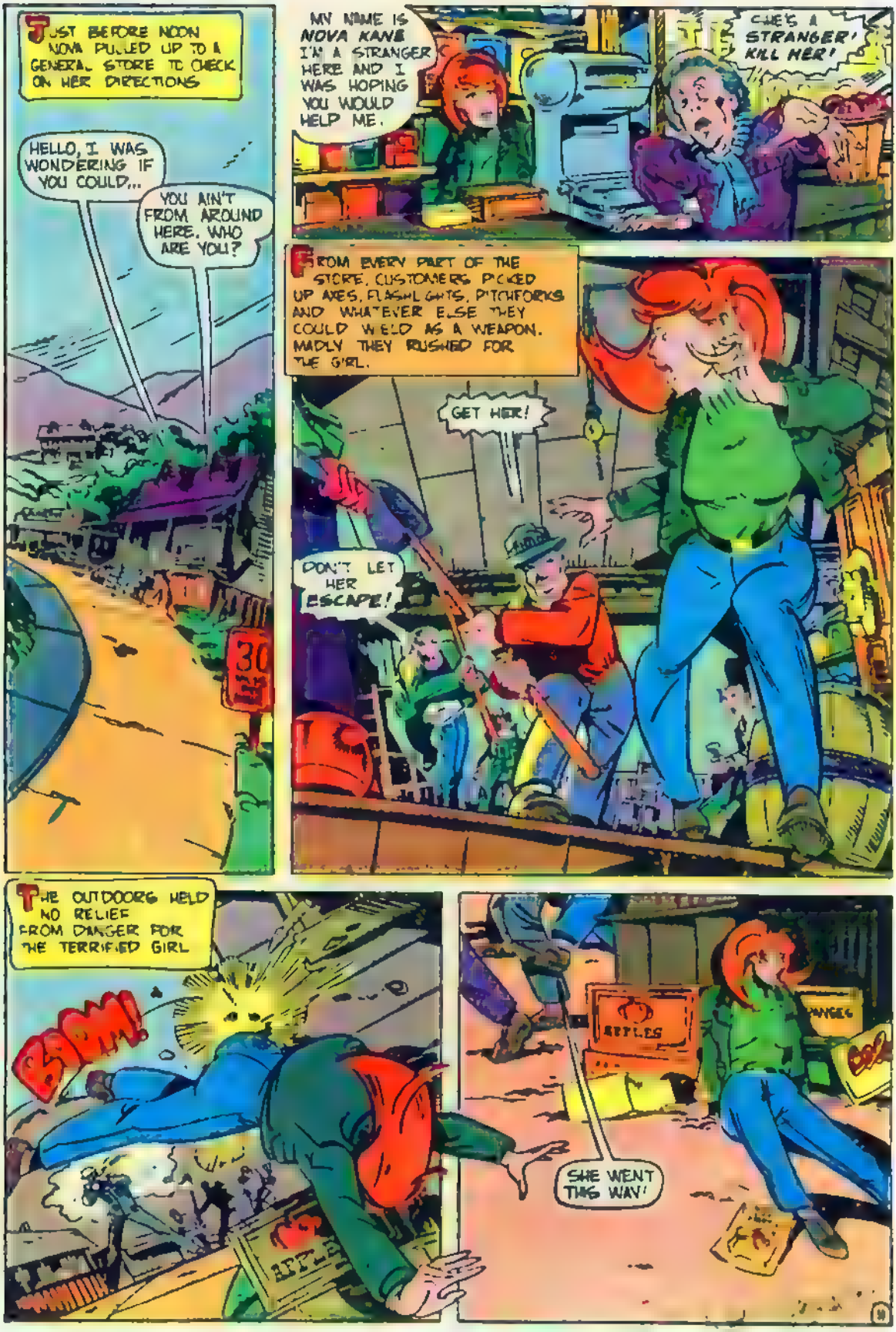
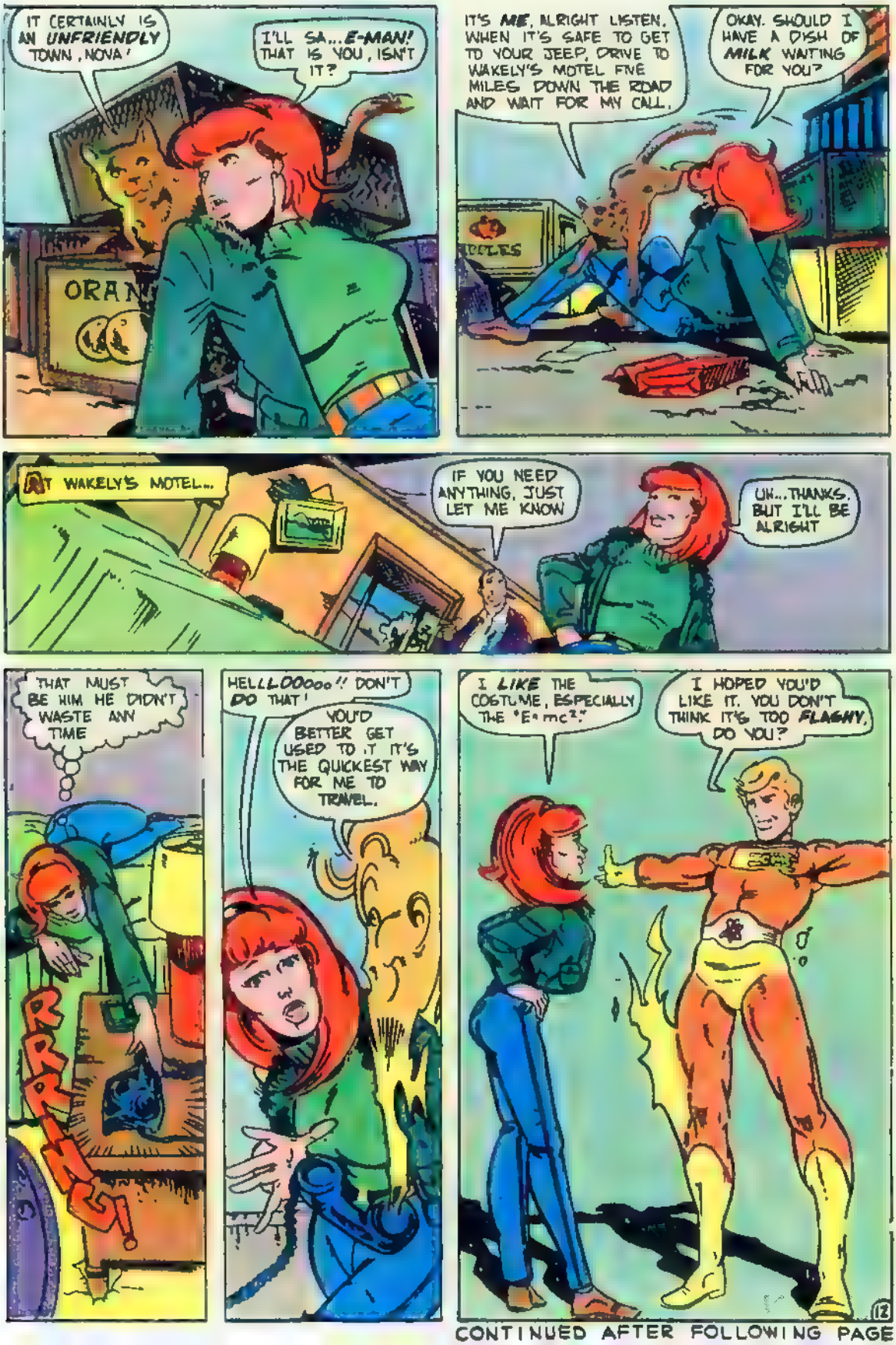

JUST BEFORE NOON NOVA PULLED UP TO A GENERAL STORE TO CHECK ON HER DIRECTIONS
HELLO, I WAS WONDERING IF YOU COULD...
YOU AIN'T FROM AROUND HERE. WHO ARE YOU?
30
MY NAME IS NOVA KANE I'M A STRANGER HERE AND I WAS HOPING YOU WOULD HELP ME.
SHE'S A STRANGER! KILL HER!
FROM EVERY PART OF THE STORE, CUSTOMERS PICKED UP AXES, FLASHLIGHTS, PITCHFORKS AND WHATEVER ELSE THEY COULD WIELD AS A WEAPON. MADLY THEY RUSHED FOR THE GIRL.
GET HER!
DON'T LET HER ESCAPE!
THE OUTDOORS HELD NO RELIEF FROM DANGER FOR THE TERRIFIED GIRL
BOOM!
APPLES
APPLES
SHE WENT THIS WAY!
39


IT CERTAINLY IS AN UNFRIENDLY TOWN, NOVA!
I'LL SA...E-MAN! THAT IS YOU, ISN'T IT?
ORAN
IT'S ME, ALRIGHT LISTEN. WHEN IT'S SAFE TO GET TO YOUR JEEP, DRIVE TO WAKELY'S MOTEL FIVE MILES DOWN THE ROAD AND WAIT FOR MY CALL.
OKAY. SHOULD I HAVE A DISH OF MILK WAITING FOR YOU?
AT WAKELY'S MOTEL...
IF YOU NEED ANYTHING, JUST LET ME KNOW
UH...THANKS, BUT I'LL BE ALRIGHT
THAT MUST BE HIM HE DIDN'T WASTE ANY TIME
RRRRIIING!
HELLLOOooo!! DON'T DO THAT!
YOU'D BETTER GET USED TO IT IT'S THE QUICKEST WAY FOR ME TO TRAVEL.
I LIKE THE COSTUME, ESPECIALLY THE "E=mc²."
I HOPED YOU'D LIKE IT. YOU DON'T THINK IT'S TOO FLASHY, DO YOU?
12

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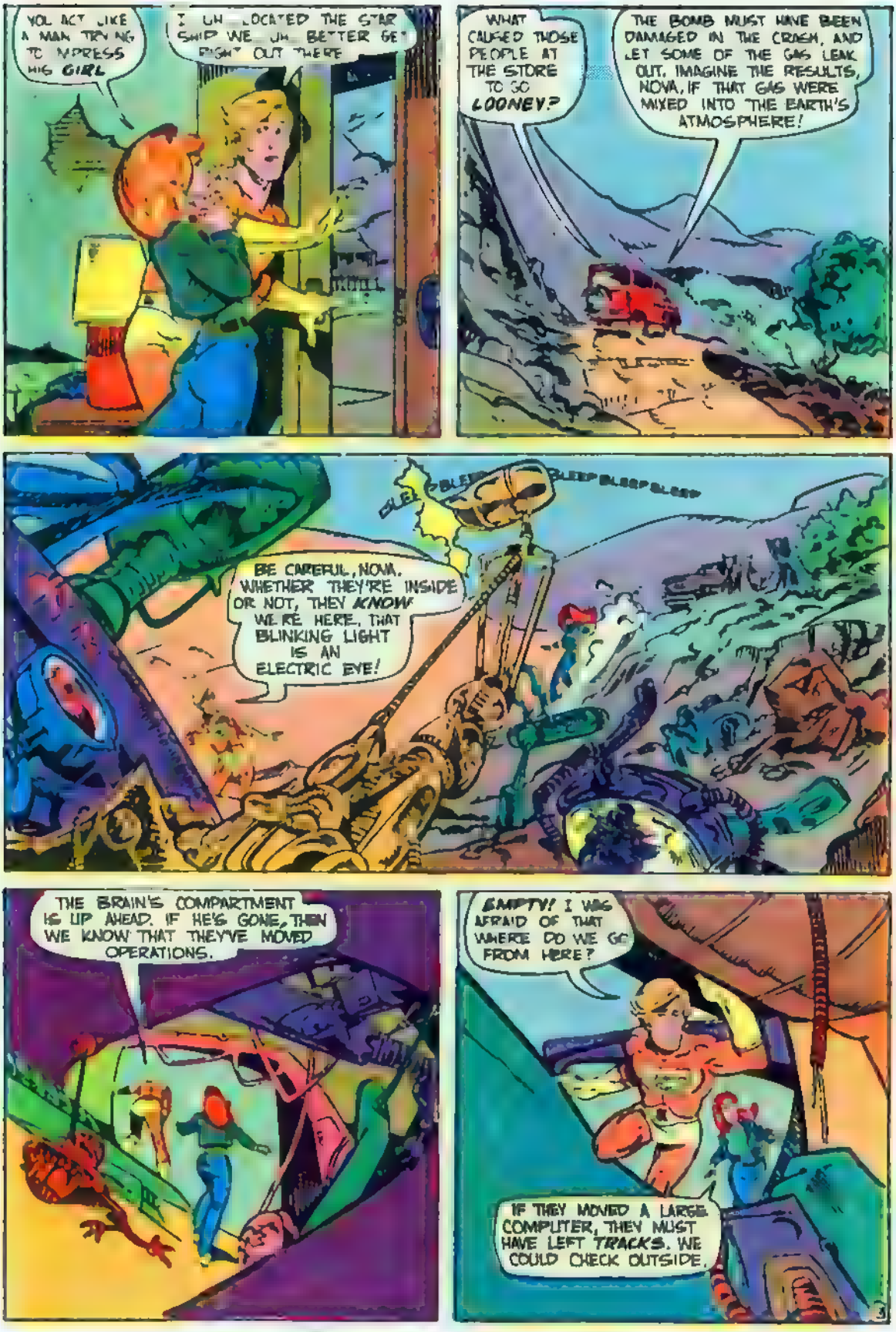
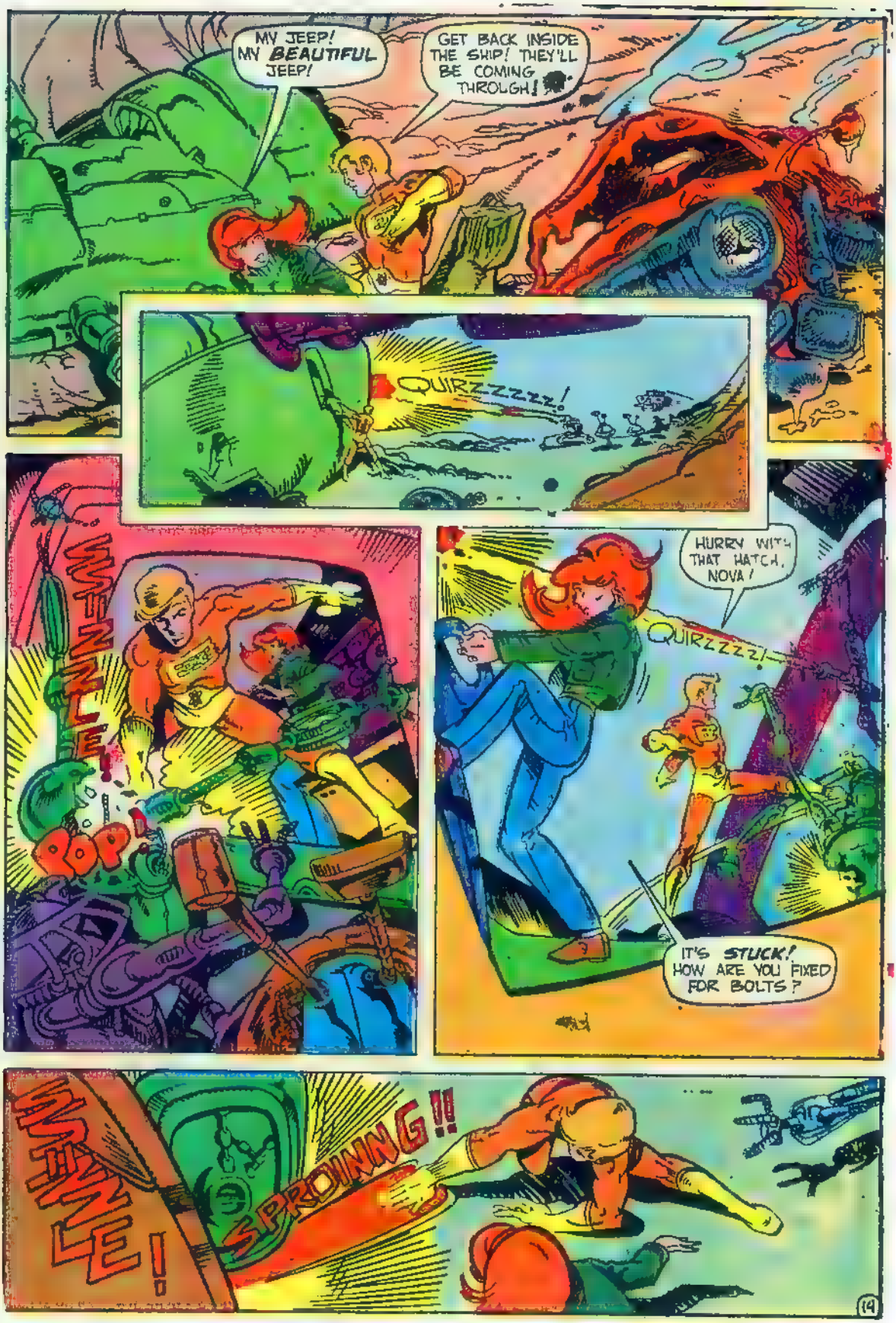
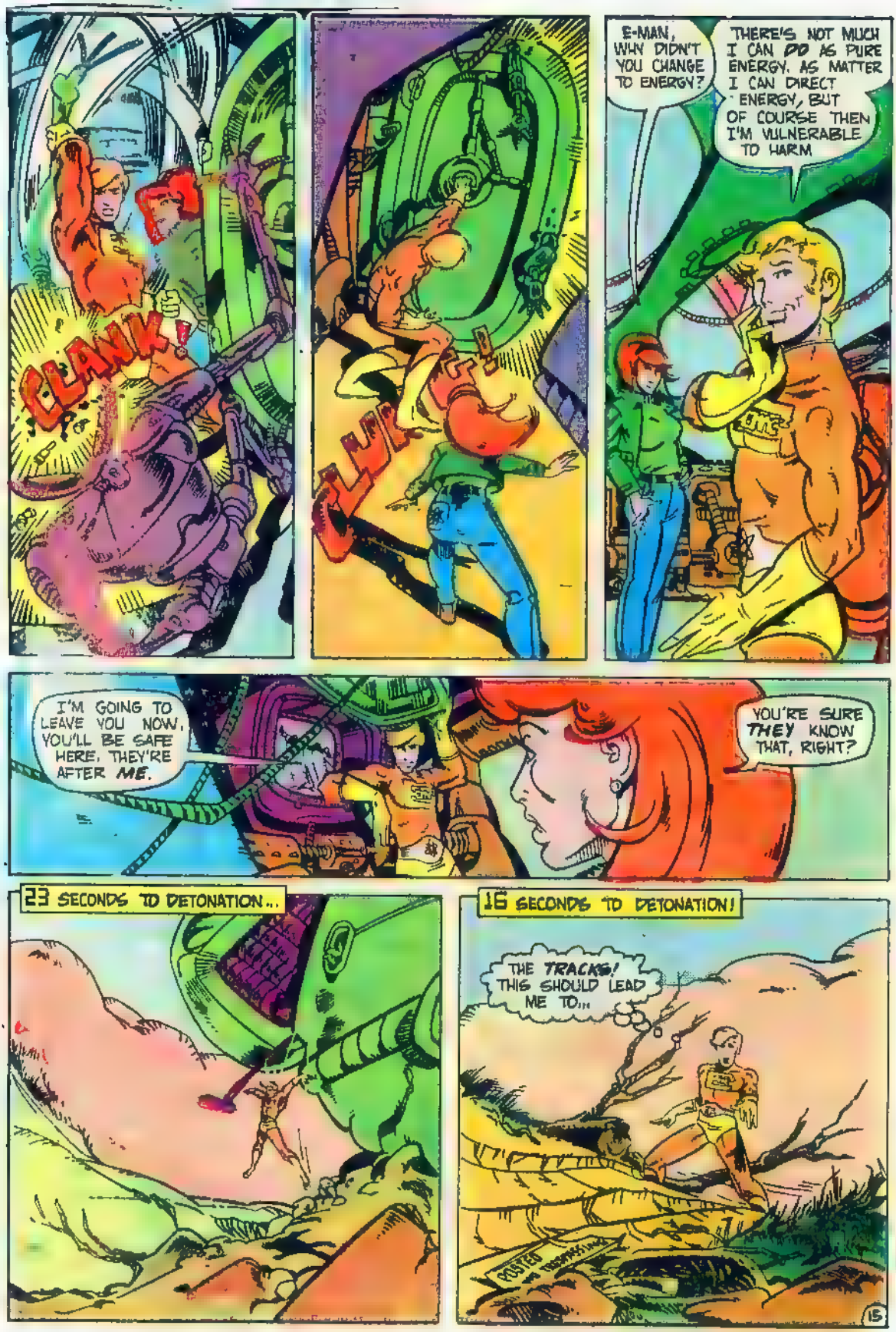
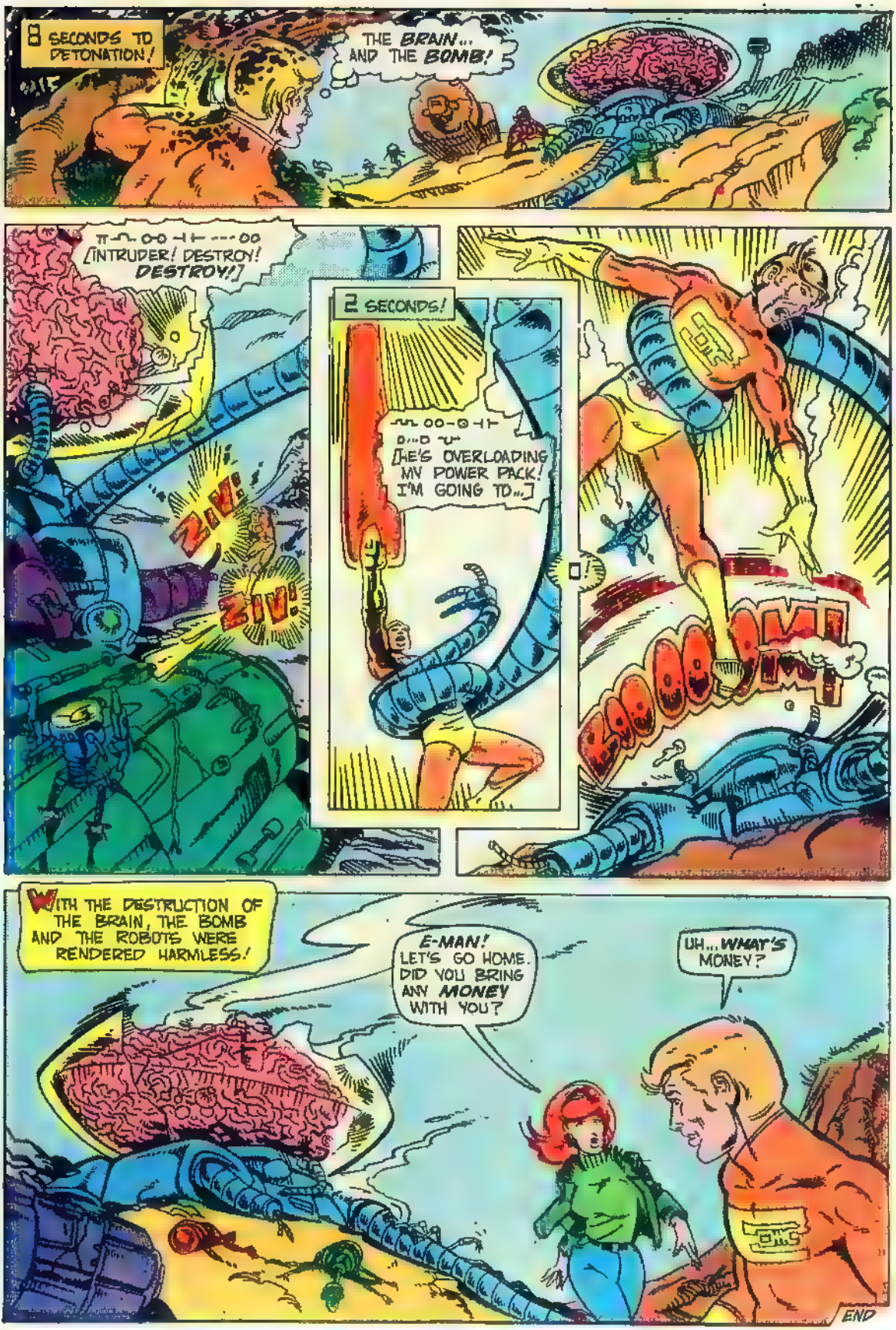

YOU ACT LIKE A MAN TRYING TO IMPRESS HIS GIRL
I UH... LOCATED THE STAR SHIP WE... UH... BETTER GET RIGHT OUT THERE
WHAT CAUSED THOSE PEOPLE AT THE STORE TO GO LOONEY?
THE BOMB MUST HAVE BEEN DAMAGED IN THE CRASH, AND LET SOME OF THE GAS LEAK OUT. IMAGINE THE RESULTS, NOVA, IF THAT GAS WERE MIXED INTO THE EARTH'S ATMOSPHERE!
BLEEP BLEEP BLEEP BLEEP
BE CAREFUL, NOVA. WHETHER THEY'RE INSIDE OR NOT, THEY KNOW WE'RE HERE. THAT BLINKING LIGHT IS AN ELECTRIC EYE!
THE BRAIN'S COMPARTMENT IS UP AHEAD. IF HE'S GONE, THEN WE KNOW THAT THEY'VE MOVED OPERATIONS.
EMPTY! I WAS AFRAID OF THAT. WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?
IF THEY MOVED A LARGE COMPUTER, THEY MUST HAVE LEFT TRACKS. WE COULD CHECK OUTSIDE.


MY JEEP! MY BEAUTIFUL JEEP!
GET BACK INSIDE THE SHIP! THEY'LL BE COMING THROUGH!
QUIRZZZZZ!
SIZZLE!
POP!
HURRY WITH THAT HATCH, NOVA!
QUIRZZZZ!
IT'S STUCK! HOW ARE YOU FIXED FOR BOLTS?
SIZZLE!
SPROINNG!!
14


CLANK!
E-MAN, WHY DIDN'T YOU CHANGE TO ENERGY?
THERE'S NOT MUCH I CAN DO AS PURE ENERGY. AS MATTER I CAN DIRECT ENERGY, BUT OF COURSE THEN I'M VULNERABLE TO HARM
I'M GOING TO LEAVE YOU NOW. YOU'LL BE SAFE HERE. THEY'RE AFTER ME.
YOU'RE SURE THEY KNOW THAT, RIGHT?
23 SECONDS TO DETONATION...
16 SECONDS TO DETONATION!
THE TRACKS! THIS SHOULD LEAD ME TO...
POSTED
15

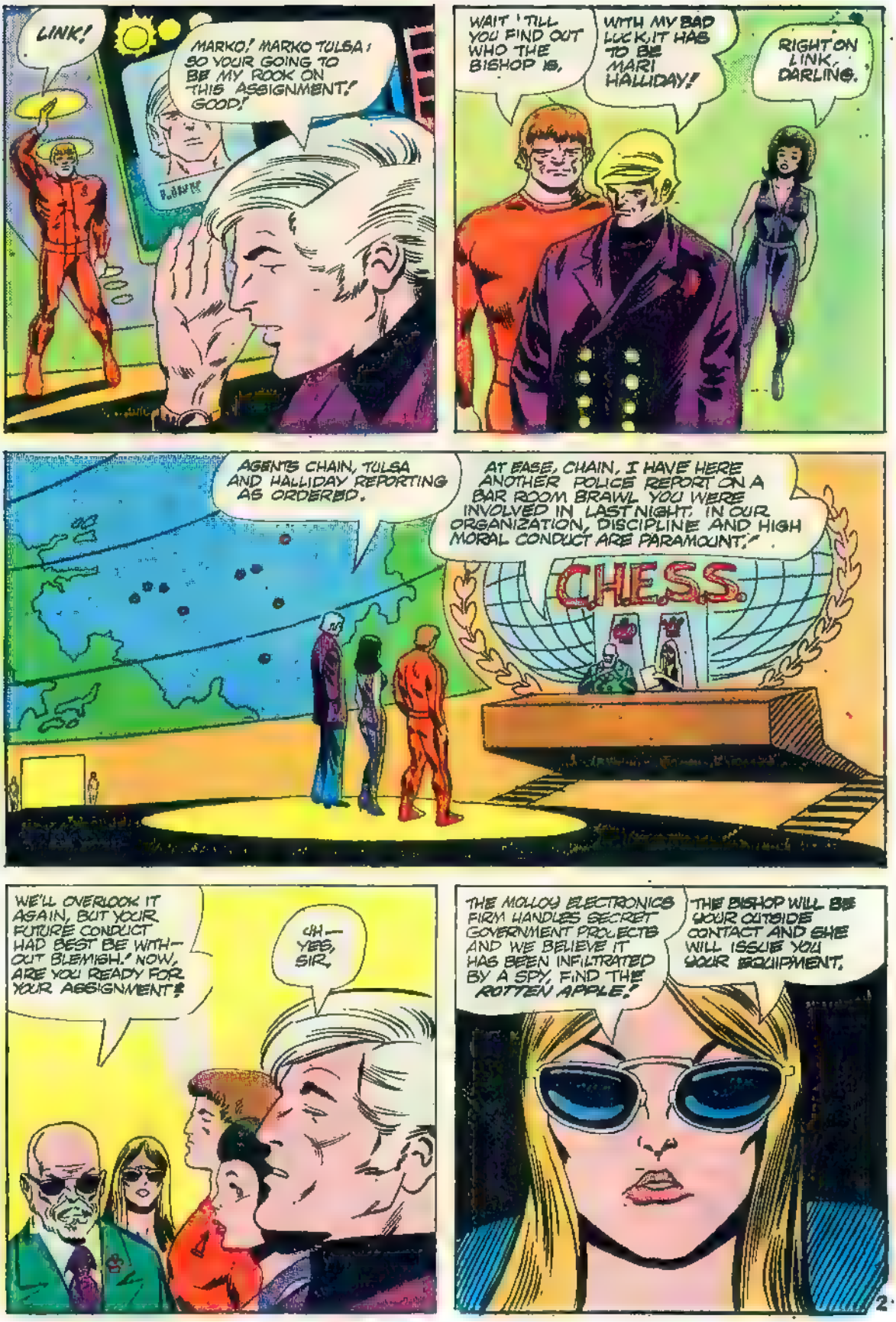

8 SECONDS TO DETONATION!
THE BRAIN... AND THE BOMB!
[INTRUDER! DESTROY! DESTROY!]
2 SECONDS!
[HE'S OVERLOADING MY POWER PACK! I'M GOING TO...]
ZIV!
ZIV!
ZOOOOM!
WITH THE DESTRUCTION OF THE BRAIN, THE BOMB AND THE ROBOTS WERE RENDERED HARMLESS!
E-MAN! LET'S GO HOME. DID YOU BRING ANY MONEY WITH YOU?
UH... WHAT'S MONEY?
END

THE KNIGHT

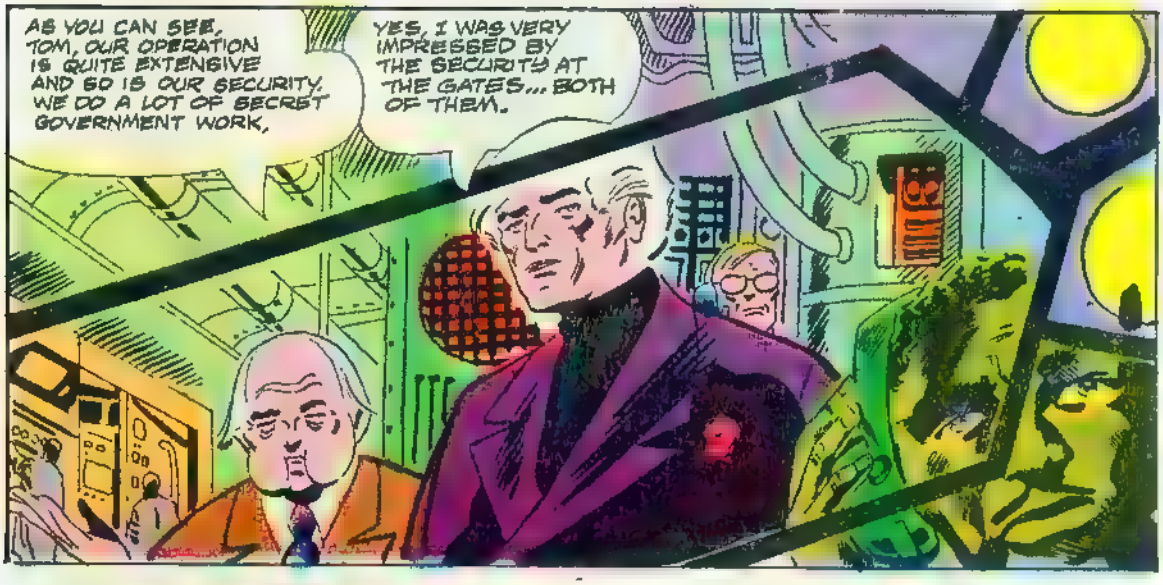
OPERATION: ROTTEN APPLE!

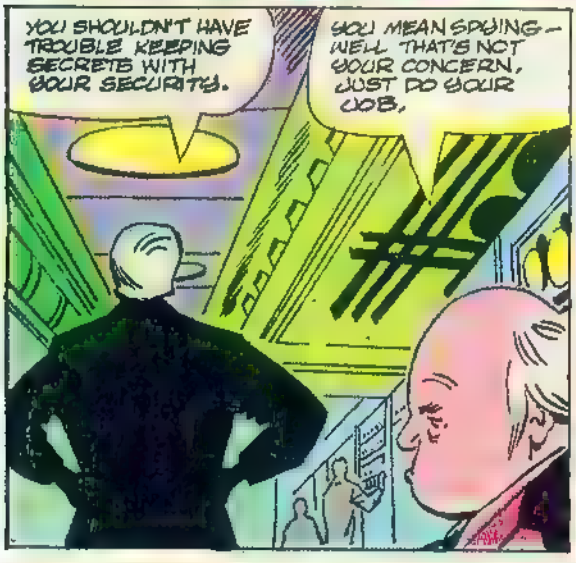
WITHIN THE SECRET ORGANIZATION KNOWN AS C.H.E.S.S. (COMMAND FOR THE HINDRANCE OF ESPIONAGE SABOTAGE AND SUBVERSION), FILES WERE BEING PREPARED, CODES ASSIGNED, THE "PLAYERS" HAD BEEN TRAINED UNTIL THEY COULD FUNCTION WITH THE SPEED AND ACCURACY OF A MACHINE. THE KNIGHT WAS THE BEST, BUT EVEN HE WAS IN OVER HIS HEAD IN...

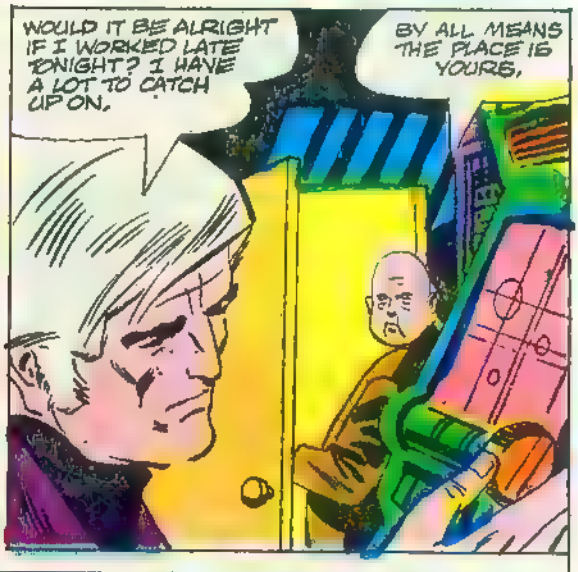
EDITOR...GEORGE WILDMAN
WRITER...NICOLA CUTI
ARTIST...
TOM SUTTON '73


LINK!
MARKO! MARKO TULSA! SO YOUR GOING TO BE MY ROOK ON THIS ASSIGNMENT! GOOD!
WAIT 'TILL YOU FIND OUT WHO THE BISHOP IS,
WITH MY BAD LUCK, IT HAS TO BE MARI HALLIDAY!
RIGHT ON LINK, DARLING.
AGENTS CHAIN, TULSA AND HALLIDAY REPORTING AS ORDERED.
AT EASE, CHAIN, I HAVE HERE ANOTHER POLICE REPORT ON A BAR ROOM BRAWL YOU WERE INVOLVED IN LAST NIGHT. IN OUR ORGANIZATION, DISCIPLINE AND HIGH MORAL CONDUCT ARE PARAMOUNT!
C.H.E.S.S.
WE'LL OVERLOOK IT AGAIN, BUT YOUR FUTURE CONDUCT HAD BEST BE WITHOUT BLEMISH! NOW, ARE YOU READY FOR YOUR ASSIGNMENT?
UH— YES, SIR.
THE MOLLOY ELECTRONICS FIRM HANDLES SECRET GOVERNMENT PROJECTS AND WE BELIEVE IT HAS BEEN INFILTRATED BY A SPY. FIND THE ROTTEN APPLE!
THE BISHOP WILL BE YOUR OUTSIDE CONTACT AND SHE WILL ISSUE YOU YOUR EQUIPMENT.

THERE'S AN INFRA-RED CAMERA IN YOUR BELT BUCKLE AND A BURGLAR KIT IN YOUR BELT.
ROOK, YOU'LL HAVE TO SMUGGLE IN THE HEAVY ARTILLERY, YOU SHOULDN'T NEED IT, BUT...
HERE ARE YOUR CREDENTIALS, KNIGHT. YOU'RE TOM CARTER, AN ELECTRONIC ENGINEER, AND ROOK, YOU'RE JON JACOBI, A FOREMAN AT THE LOADING DOCK.
IF THERE ARE NO QUESTIONS, YOU ARE DISMISSED.
GOOD LUCK.
HEY, BLUE EYES, WHAT ARE YOU DOING AFTER THE ASSIGNMENT?
AVOIDING YOU AND YOUR FAT EGO, DARLING!
THE ONLY REASON I KEEP TRYING IS BECAUSE I KNOW SHE'S CRAZY ABOUT ME.
I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT LOVE, I'M A MARRIED MAN.
AT MOLLOY ELECTRONICS, A NEW EMPLOYEE REPORTED FOR WORK.
MR. CARTER, IT'S A PLEASURE TO HAVE YOU WITH THE FIRM.
THANK YOU, MR. MOLLOY, I'M VERY ANXIOUS TO SEE EVERYTHING!
MOLLOY ELECTRONICS
3

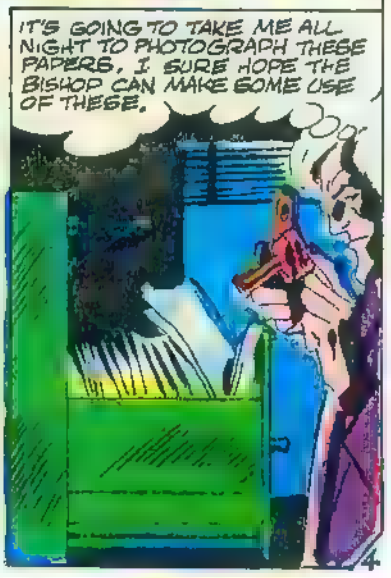

AS YOU CAN SEE, TOM, OUR OPERATION IS QUITE EXTENSIVE AND SO IS OUR SECURITY. WE DO A LOT OF SECRET GOVERNMENT WORK.
YES, I WAS VERY IMPRESSED BY THE SECURITY AT THE GATES... BOTH OF THEM.

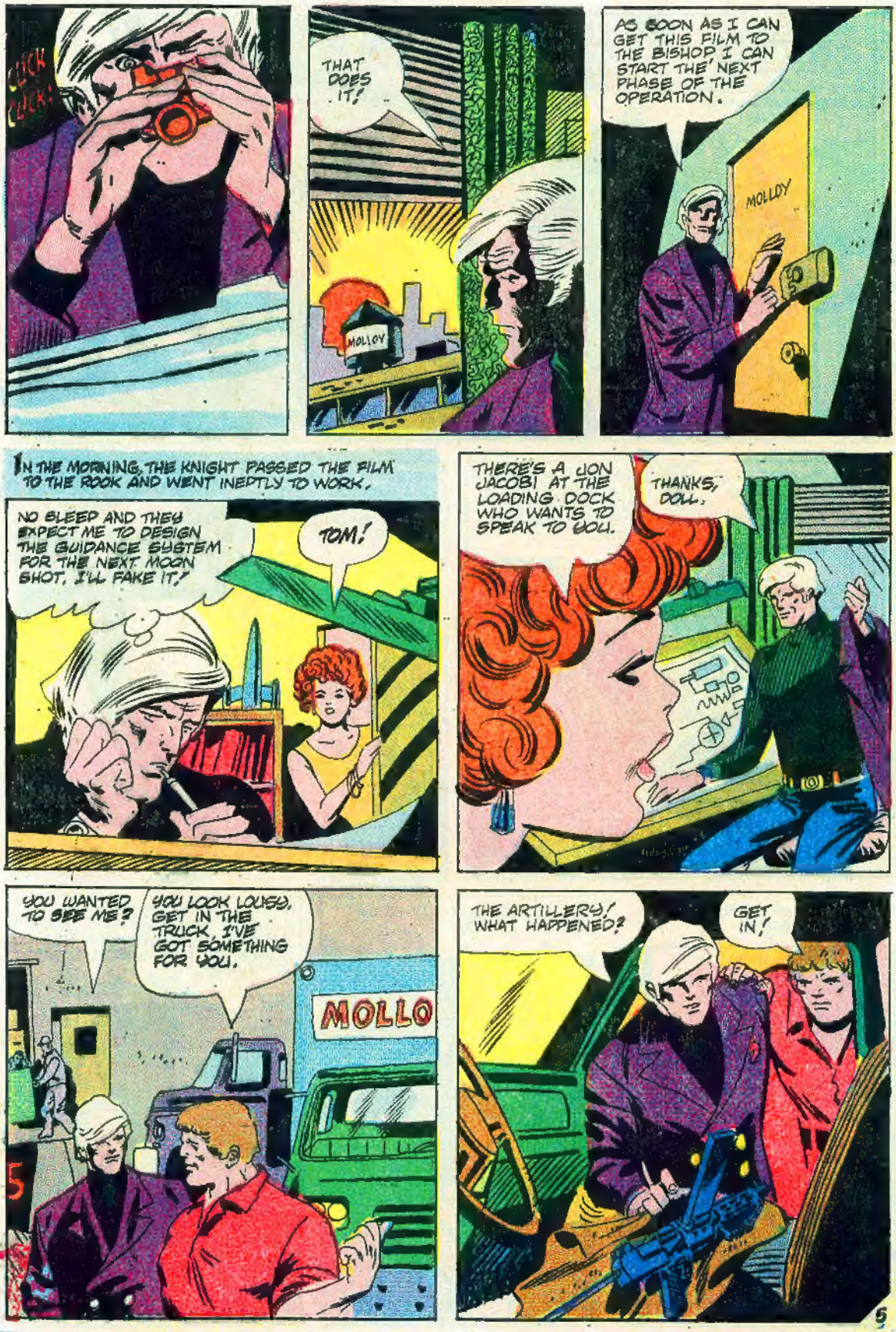

YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE TROUBLE KEEPING SECRETS WITH YOUR SECURITY.
YOU MEAN SPYING — WELL THAT'S NOT YOUR CONCERN. JUST DO YOUR JOB.

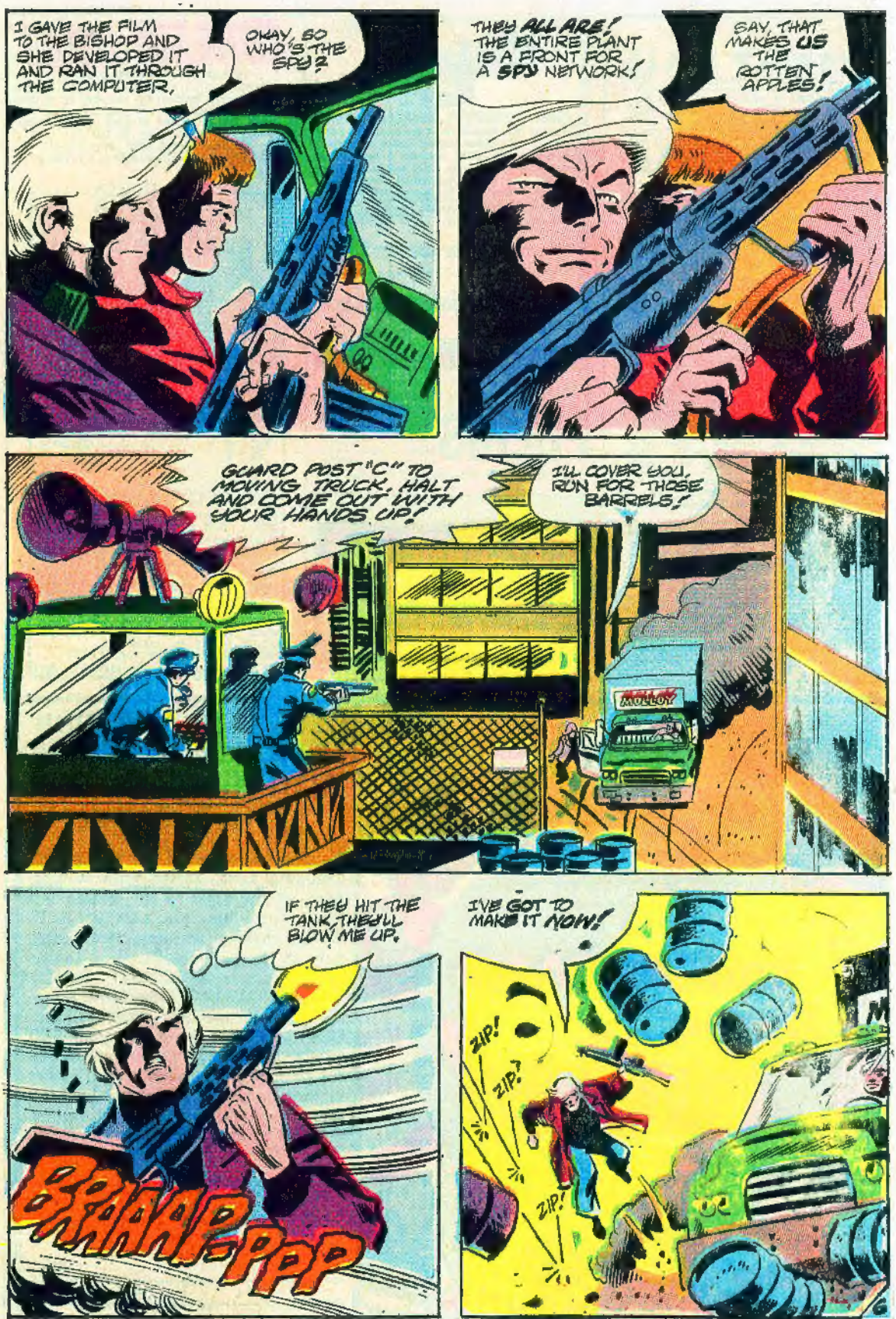

WOULD IT BE ALRIGHT IF I WORKED LATE TONIGHT? I HAVE A LOT TO CATCH UP ON.
BY ALL MEANS THE PLACE IS YOURS.

THE KNIGHT, OF COURSE, TOOK THAT LITERALLY.
MOLLOY

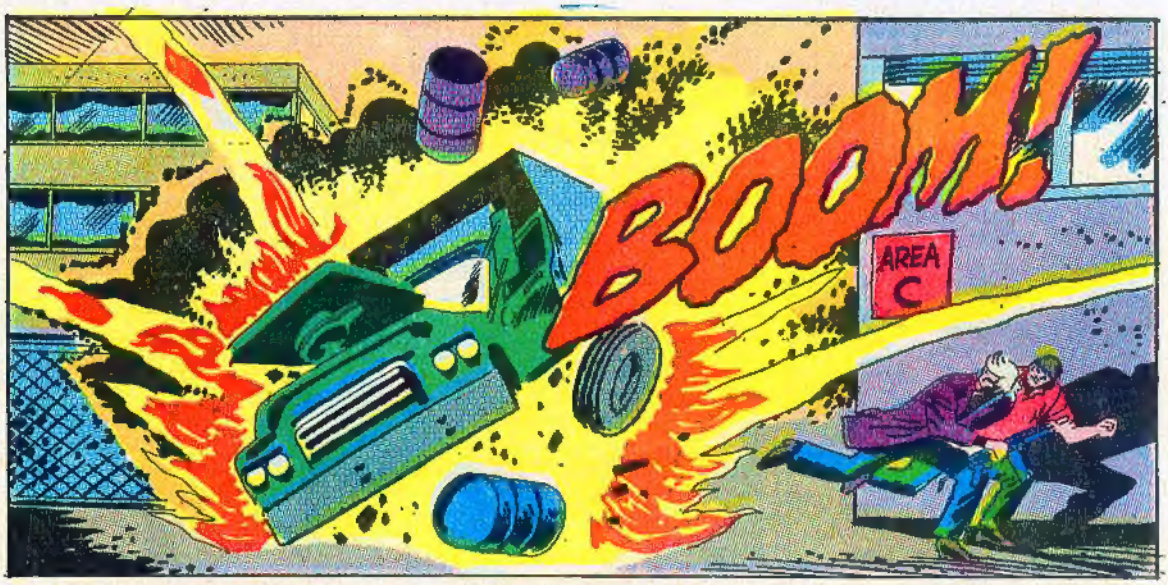
I'M IN. NOW I'VE GOT TO GET TO THE FILES.


IT'S GOING TO TAKE ME ALL NIGHT TO PHOTOGRAPH THESE PAPERS. I SURE HOPE THE BISHOP CAN MAKE SOME USE OF THESE.


CLICK CLICK
THAT DOES IT!
MOLLOY
AS SOON AS I CAN GET THIS FILM TO THE BISHOP I CAN START THE NEXT PHASE OF THE OPERATION.
MOLLOY
IN THE MORNING, THE KNIGHT PASSED THE FILM TO THE ROOK AND WENT INEPTLY TO WORK.
NO BLEEP AND THEY EXPECT ME TO DESIGN THE GUIDANCE SYSTEM FOR THE NEXT MOON SHOT. I'LL FAKE IT!
TOM!
THERE'S A JON JACOBI AT THE LOADING DOCK WHO WANTS TO SPEAK TO YOU.
THANKS, DOLL.
YOU WANTED TO SEE ME?
YOU LOOK LOUSY. GET IN THE TRUCK. I'VE GOT SOMETHING FOR YOU.
MOLLO
THE ARTILLERY! WHAT HAPPENED?
GET IN!


I GAVE THE FILM TO THE BISHOP AND SHE DEVELOPED IT AND RAN IT THROUGH THE COMPUTER.
OKAY, SO WHO'S THE SPY?
THEY ALL ARE! THE ENTIRE PLANT IS A FRONT FOR A SPY NETWORK!
SAY, THAT MAKES US THE ROTTEN APPLES!
GUARD POST "C" TO MOVING TRUCK. HALT AND COME OUT WITH YOUR HANDS UP!
I'LL COVER YOU. RUN FOR THOSE BARRELS!
IF THEY HIT THE TANK, THEY'LL BLOW ME UP.
I'VE GOT TO MAKE IT NOW!
BRRAAP-PPP
ZIP!
ZIP!
ZIP!

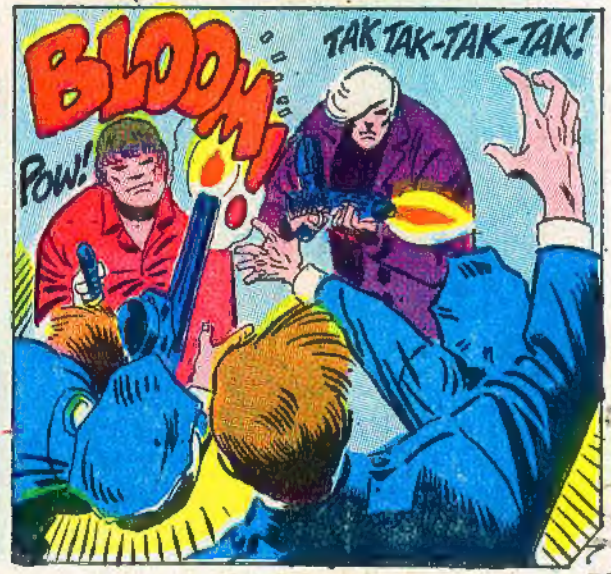
CONTINUED AFTER FOLLOWING PAGE

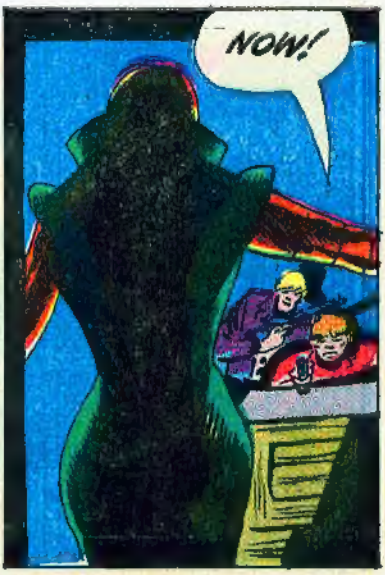

BOOM!
AREA C

ARE THE CHESSMEN COMING?
YEAH, IF WE CAN STAY ALIVE LONG ENOUGH, WE CAN WAVE AND WHISTLE WHEN THEY ARRIVE!

GRENADES!
LET'S MOVE!
BLAM!
FROOM!

THERE THEY ARE!
K-KRASH!


BLOOM!
TAK TAK-TAK-TAK!
POW!



BUT ITS NOT A SECURITY GUARD WHO WALKS INTO THE ENTRANCE, BUT INSTEAD ITS A CHESSMAN IN FULL BATTLE ARMOR.

THE LACK OF SLEEP, HOWEVER, TAKES ITS TOLL THAT NIGHT IN A MOST INCONVENIENT WAY.